

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA K	FORM NO. 444
-----------	-----------------



SKETCH MAP



Recorded by Anne Crady, Nancy S. Seasholes  
Organization Lexington Historical Commission  
Date April, 1984

vn Lexington

lress 42 Forest Street

storic Name Amos Muzzey House

e: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

te \_\_\_\_\_

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Style Second Period Georgian

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric \_\_\_\_\_

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

From Mass Ave and Edison Way (site of Edison building) to corner of Waltham St and Vine Moved Brook Rd; from latter Date 1834; 1894 to current location

Approx. acreage 16420 ft.<sup>2</sup>

Setting Residential street; houses to

the west built after 1920; houses to the

east built in the late nineteenth century.

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

It is difficult to be certain how much of the finish of this house dates from its early Second Period construction date. The overall plan and profile, small window size, and grouped window placement appear to be original. Perhaps the molded window caps and the pilasters of the doorway are also eighteenth century features.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

This house originally stood on Massachusetts Avenue at the corner of Edison Way, the site of the present Edison building. This was also the site of the first house in Lexington, which was purchased in 1693 by Benjamin Muzzey (1657-1732). Muzzey was one of the earliest settlers of the town and owned a large amount of land in the center: it was from him that the land was purchased for the second meeting house. After Benjamin's death, the house was owned by his son Amos (1700-1752) and it was probably during the latter's ownership that the original house was replaced by this one, hence its name the "Amos Muzzey house." The house was next owned by Amos' son, also named Amos (1741-1822), who served in the Revolution. This house was one raided by the British on April 19, 1775: on their return from Concord the British entered, broke windows, a mirror, china, dressed their wounded in the parlor, and fired three bullets into the walls (they were recovered during an 1815 repair of the house).

In 1834 the Muzzey family built a new house on the Massachusetts Avenue site and this house was moved to the south side of Waltham Street at the corner of what is now Vine Brook Road. For forty years during the nineteenth century it was owned by Isaac Huffmaster. Finally, in 1890 Bradley C. Whitcher bought the property, moved this house to Forest Street, and built a new house on the Waltham Street lot. After its relocation it was apparently owned by William F. Glenn, the carpenter who owned the house at 38 Forest Street (see form).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

"Amos Muzzey House Gets Historic Tablet from DAR." Lexington Minute Man, April 26, 1951.

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, pp. 477-478, 480-481, 482. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Lexington Minute Man, n.d. "Muzzey House." In clippings scrapbook in possession of Elizabeth Reinhardt.

Worthen, Edwin B. "Notes made in 1941-42." Worthen Collection, Cary Memorial Library, Lexington, Massachusetts.

1906 map